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INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

<b>(51) International Patent Classification <sup>7</sup> :</b> <b>C07K 1/00, 16/00, G01N 33/53</b>	<b>A1</b>	<b>(11) International Publication Number:</b> <b>WO 00/61606</b> <b>(43) International Publication Date:</b> 19 October 2000 (19.10.00)
<b>(21) International Application Number:</b> PCT/US00/09587 <b>(22) International Filing Date:</b> 10 April 2000 (10.04.00)  <b>(30) Priority Data:</b> 60/129,274 14 April 1999 (14.04.99) US  <b>(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US):</b> MERCK & CO., INC. [US/US]; 126 East Lincoln Avenue, Rahway, NJ 07065-0907 (US).  <b>(72) Inventors; and</b> <b>(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only):</b> PETRUKHIN, Konstantin [RU/US]; 126 East Lincoln Avenue, Rahway, NJ 07065-0907 (US). CASKEY, C., Thomas [US/US]; 126 East Lincoln Avenue, Rahway, NJ 07065-0907 (US). LI, Wen [US/US]; 126 East Lincoln Avenue, Rahway, NJ 07065-0907 (US). METZKER, Michael, L. [US/US]; 126 Lincoln Avenue, Rahway, NJ 07065-0907 (US).  <b>(74) Common Representative:</b> MERCK & CO., INC.; 126 East Lincoln Avenue, Rahway, NJ 07065-0907 (US).	<b>(81) Designated States:</b> CA, JP, US, European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE).  <b>Published</b> <i>With international search report.</i>	
<b>(54) Title:</b> NOVEL HUMAN VOLTAGE-GATED POTASSIUM CHANNEL		
<b>(57) Abstract</b> <p>The present invention is directed to novel human DNA sequences encoding a voltage-gated potassium channel, KCNQ5, located in a chromosomal region that contains a gene associated with Stargardt-like macular dystrophy, cone-rod macular dystrophy, and Salla disease.</p>		